

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-19. Canceled

20. (New) A method of detecting a fault in an apparatus for supplying breathable gas to a patient at a positive pressure, the apparatus including a gas flow generator comprising a servo controlled motor and impeller, a motor speed transducer configured to monitor motor speed, a snore transducer configured to produce a snore transducer signal, and a timer, the method comprising:

monitoring the motor speed;

monitoring the snore transducer signal;

following a predetermined duration, comparing the snore transducer signal to a first threshold and the motor speed to a second threshold to derive a first compared value and a second compared value, respectively; and

determining a snore transducer fault in accordance with the first compared value and the second compared value.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising determining that the snore transducer is stuck low if the first compared value indicates that the snore transducer signal is below the first threshold and if the second compared value indicates that the motor speed is above the second threshold.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the first threshold is below 5% full scale deflection.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the second threshold is approximately 11,000 RPM.

24. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the predetermined duration is approximately 2s.

25. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising determining that the snore transducer is stuck high if the first compared value indicates that the gas flow is above the first threshold and if the second compared value indicates that the motor speed is below the second threshold.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the first threshold is above 95% full scale deflection.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the second threshold is approximately 6,000 RPM.

28. (New) A method of operating an apparatus for supplying breathable gas to a patient at a positive pressure, the apparatus including a gas flow generator comprising a servo controlled motor and impeller, a motor speed transducer, a snore transducer configured to produce a snore transducer signal, and a display, the method comprising:

determining a snore transducer fault;
providing a warning notice on the display; and
if the flow generator is generating a pressure, changing mask pressure over a predetermined period of time.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the pressure is increased and the predetermined period of time is approximately 5 minutes.

30. (New) An apparatus for supplying breathable gas to a patient at a positive pressure, including a gas flow generator comprising:

a servo controlled motor and impeller;
a motor speed transducer configured to monitor motor speed;
a snore transducer configured to produce a snore transducer signal;
a timer; and
a controller configured to:
 monitor the motor speed transducer, the snore transducer, and the timer;
 compare, following a predetermined duration, the snore transducer signal to a first threshold and the motor speed to a second threshold to derive a first compared value and a second compared value, respectively; and
 determine a snore transducer fault in accordance with the first compared value and the second compared value.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the controller is further configured to determine that the snore transducer is stuck low if the first compared value indicates that the snore transducer signal is below the first threshold and if the second compared value indicates that the motor speed is above the second threshold.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the first threshold is below 5% full scale deflection.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the second threshold is approximately 11,000 RPM.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the predetermined duration is approximately 2s.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the controller is further configured to determine that the snore transducer is stuck high if the first compared value indicates that the

snore transducer signal is above the first threshold and if the second compared value indicates that the motor speed is below the second threshold.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the first threshold is above 95% full scale deflection.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the second threshold is approximately 6,000 RPM.

38. (New) An apparatus for supplying breathable gas to a patient at a positive pressure, including a gas flow generator comprising:

- a servo controlled motor and impeller;

- a motor speed transducer;

- a snore transducer configured to provide a snore transducer signal;

- a display; and

- a controller configured to:

- determine a snore transducer fault;

- provide a warning notice on the display; and

- if the flow generator is generating a pressure, change mask pressure over a predetermined period of time.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the mask pressure is increased and the predetermined period of time is approximately 5 minutes.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the mask pressure is increased to the 95th percentile pressure of a previous session.

COLLA et al.

Divisional of U.S. Serial No. 10/408,568

February 25, 2004

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the mask pressure is limited to 10 cm H₂O if the 95th percentile pressure is invalid.